

**DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE & CRIMINOLOGY**  
**COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE**  
**SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**CRIJ 3396-02**  
**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY & JUVENILE JUSTICE**  
**SPRING 2018**

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Instructor: Ling Ren, Ph.D.  
Class Hours: Online  
Office: C211  
E-mail: [Lren@shsu.edu](mailto:Lren@shsu.edu)

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Credit Hours: 3  
Classroom: Online  
Phone: 936-294-4793

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**Course Description**

This is an introductory course on juvenile delinquency in the criminal justice system and the broader society. This course is thus designed to familiarize students with the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency, and different types of explanation for delinquent behavior. An examination of important issues and topics will be included such as the relationship between delinquency and gender, problems in the family, peer and gang delinquency, drug abuse. Moreover, the course will provide an overview of the juvenile justice process, police-juvenile relations, the juvenile court and juvenile corrections.

**Course Objectives**

1. Gain factual knowledge (terminology, classifications, methods, trends) of juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice.
2. Learn fundamental principles and theories of juvenile delinquency and juvenile justice.
3. Learn to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions in the area of juvenile justice.

**Course Format**

This online course will be delivered via an education software called *Blackboard*. It is important that the students have a computer/laptop and internet connection that work properly. For the technical requirements and the specifics about how to get started with *Blackboard*, please refer to the following website at <http://distance.shsu.edu/current-students/orientation.html>

The course content will be presented via the pre-recorded audio lectures along with the PowerPoint slides posted online. The number and length of audio lectures vary depending on the topic and content of the chapter. Students are expected to listen to the audio lectures, read the assigned readings, complete the assignments, and take the exams. The homework assignments

and exams are designed in accordance with the chapter content discussed in the audio lectures and the textbook.

When you have questions about the course content, feel free to email the instructor. In addition, On-line Discussion Board is set up for each session to build a vibrant learning community and to promote class interactions. Students' participation in class discussion is voluntary and will not be graded.

Students will be informed of the class updates, changes and new developments by means of mass emails and class announcements. It is important for the students to check the course website and the SHSU email accounts for the updates on a daily basis.

### **Technical Support**

For questions about Blackboard or technical issues with videos, assignments, or tests, please contact **SHSU Online Support Desk**:

*Technology Call Center (Dedicated personnel available)*

**Phone: (936) 294-2780**

Monday – Friday, 24 hours

Saturday, 7am-midnight CST (Central Standard Time)

Sunday, 1pm-midnight CST

*Chat with the Support Desk:*

Monday – Friday, 24 hours

Saturday, 7am-midnight CST

Sunday, 1pm-midnight CST

*Email to the Support Desk at [blackboard@shsu.edu](mailto:blackboard@shsu.edu)*

Monday – Friday, 24 hours

Saturday, 7am-midnight CST

Sunday, 1pm-midnight CST

For questions about your email account, or password assistance, please refer to the **IT@Sam Service Desk**:

Phone: (936) 294-1950

Email: [helpdesk@shsu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@shsu.edu)

Monday-Thursday: 7:30am - 9pm CST

Friday: 8am - 5pm CST

Saturday & Sunday, Closed

### **Required Textbook**

Bartollas, Clemens & Schmallegger, Frank. (2013). *Juvenile Delinquency*. (9<sup>th</sup> edition). Boston:

### **Grading**

<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Exam 2</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Exam 3</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Homework Assignments</b>	<b>150 points</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>450 points</b>

Final grades are determined by the number of **POINTS** that are earned throughout the semester.

**A= 405-450 points**

**B= 360-404.99 points**

**C= 315-359.99 points**

**D= 270-314.99 points**

**F= 0-269.99 points**

#### **1). Exams**

There will be **THREE** noncumulative exams including the final. Exams are open book, open notes. Each exam consists of 50 multiple choice questions (2 points each). All exams are time-limited. Specific dates and times for exams are listed in Class Schedule on Pages 6-8. Before each exam, students will be provided with the detailed instructions on how to prepare for and take the online exam.

#### **2). Homework Assignments**

There will be **TEN** homework assignments over the course of the semester. Assignments are worth **15** points each. They are designed to enhance students' understanding of the course content and to measure your ability to apply this understanding to real world problems. Each student is expected to turn in his/her homework assignment on an individual basis. Refer to Class Schedule on Pages 6-8 for the specific due date for each homework assignment. **THREE** important issues related to homework assignments listed below deserve your special attention:

##### **A) Homework Preparation:**

**a. The required length of each assignment is 2-3 full pages (double-spaced). This does not include the references section if you have references. The cover page is not required.**

**b. Assignments must be typed and well organized. Make sure your name appears in the top-right or top-left corner of the first page.**

**c. Use Times New Roman 12 font; use 1 inch margins.**

**d. Assignments must be free of spelling and grammatical errors.**

**e. You can structure the assignments in essay format or by using bullet points as long as they are clearly explained and get to the point.**

**f. Microsoft Word (MS) and PDF are the only two formats in which your homework assignments shall be prepared and submitted. The image-format files such as JPG and JPEG inserted into a Word document will not be considered as one of the required formats. Homework submissions prepared in the formats other than the MS or PDF described above will automatically result in a grade of zero.**

**g. In preparing your assignments, if you use sources other than the lecture notes, textbook or the assignment context, you are expected to cite your sources properly. Please be noted that you must answer questions by using your own words and outside sources should be used to enhance your response – not write the response for you! In the rare situations where you feel strongly about using other’s ideas word by word, please identify it by adding quotation marks and proper citation. Directly copying and pasting others’ work or ideas without proper citations constitutes plagiarism. Refer to “Academic Honesty” stated in the syllabus for subsequent consequences associated with this type of behavior.**

#### **B) Homework Submission:**

The due time and days of your homework assignments are always by 8:00:00pm (CST) on Saturdays. Homework must be submitted online; email submission will not be accepted except in cases of emergency or tech problems. For how to submit the assignments online, please refer to “*Instructions on Submitting Assignments to the Course*” included in Session 1. Every student has only one opportunity to submit his/her homework online. Before the online submission, please double check to make sure that the version to be submit is correct and final. It is suggested that you submit your work at least one hour prior to the deadline in case tech problem occurs at the time of your submission. Late submission will not be accepted except in an emergency.

In case you encounter a tech problem that precludes you from submitting your work, do the following two things:

**First**, take a photo of your computer screen that shows the error message. Write an email and attach the photo of the error message to the instructor immediately.

**Second**, call the SHSU Online Support Desk immediately and carefully document the information about the call (e.g., the specific time the call is made, the name of the technician you speak to, the type of tech problem you are told, the length of your call). So the instructor can verify the information with the technician(s) in order to consider a proper solution for the situation(s).

Please be noted that this 2-step strategy described above is also applied to the tech-problem situations in the three exams.

### **C) Be aware of the service hours by the SHSU Online Support Desk:**

The service hours of the SHSU Online Support Desk are listed on page 2. If you choose to listen to the videos, do your homework assignments or take the exam outside of the service hours, you will be responsible for any inconvenience caused by the potential tech problem(s) of your computer/laptop or internet. It is highly recommended to work on the course within the service hours of the Online Support Desk, so you can receive the tech support right away if needed.

### **Make-up Work**

Exams and homework assignments must be completed and turned in on the due dates (or the amended due dates if later clarified by the instructor). If an unavoidable conflict with one of the dates exists (e.g., medical situation, job interview, family-related emergency), please contact the instructor **before** the test is administered or an assignment becomes due. Failure to turn in homework assignments or take an exam on the scheduled date, without making **prior** arrangements, will result in a **zero** on that particular exercise. Giving a make-up exam is at instructor's discretion with **valid** excuse provided by students. The excuse must be written and appropriately documented.

### **Reading Assignments**

You are expected to read each assigned reading in the Reading Assignments list. Reading the assignments will better prepare you for the lectures.

### **Academic Honesty**

In accordance with *Academic Policy Statement 810213*

*5.3 Academic Honesty. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.*

*5.31 The University and its official representatives, acting in accordance with Subsection 5.32, may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.*

The University's policy on academic honesty and appeal procedures can be found at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### **Disabled Students Policy**

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individuals shall, solely by reason of their disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any academic program or activity.

Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance are expected to visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. Students are also encouraged to discuss any concerns with the instructor.

More information can be found at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### **Services for Disabled Students**

Accommodations are provided for students who are registered with the Counseling Center. Information on a variety of services available to disabled students can be found at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html>

### **Student Absences on Religious Holy Day Policy**

In accordance with *Academic Policy Statement 861001*

Section 51.911 (b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

Any student desiring to be absent in order to observe a religious holy days(s) should meet with the instructor in the first two weeks of the course to discuss appropriate times to make up any work to be missed.

Please refer to the <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/aps/aps-students.html> for more information on this subject.

### **Withdrawals**

Students wishing to withdraw are cautioned to follow formal procedures outlined by the University. Consult the Sam Houston State University Undergraduate Catalog, 2017-2018 for official policies under “tuition and fees refund policy” and “dropping courses.”

### **TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE\***

<b><u>Session</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>	<b><u>Topic &amp; Reading Assignments</u></b>
1	1/17-1/20	Course Introduction (Watch “Intro to Course” video) Review the Course Syllabus Student Introductions

2	1/21-1/27	Chapter 1 Adolescence & Delinquency <b>Assignment 1 due Saturday, 1/27 by 8:00:00pm CST (Central Standard Time)</b>
3	1/28-2/3	Chapter 2 Measurement & Nature of Delinquency <b>Assignment 2 due Saturday, 2/3 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
4	2/4-2/10	Chapter 3 Individual Causes of Delinquency <b>Assignment 3 due Saturday, 2/10 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
5	2/11-2/17	Chapter 4 Social Structural Causes of Delinquency Chapter 5 Social Process Theories of Delinquency
6	2/18-2/24	Prepare for Exam 1 (Review audio-Lectures & PPT Slides) Sample Questions Question & Answer at Virtual Office or by email <b>Exam # 1 on 2/21-2/24 (Wednesday-Saturday), due Saturday, 2/24 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
7	2/25-3/3	Chapter 6 Social Interactionist Theories of Delinquency <b>Assignment 4 due Saturday, 3/3 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
8	3/4-3/10	Chapter 7 Gender & Delinquency <b>Assignment 5 due Saturday, 3/10 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
	<b>3/11-3/17</b>	<b>Spring Break (No Class)</b>
9	3/18-3/24	Chapter 8 Families & Delinquency <b>Assignment 6 due Saturday, 3/24 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
10	3/25-3/31	Chapter 9 Schools & Delinquency Chapter 10 Gangs & Delinquency <b>Assignment 7 due Saturday, 3/31 by 8:00:00pm CST</b> (Note: 3/30 is the University Holiday – Good Friday)
11	4/1-4/7	Prepare for Exam 2 (Review audio-Lectures & PPT Slides) Question & Answer at Virtual Office or by email <b>Exam 2 on 4/4-4/7 (Wednesday- Saturday), due Saturday, 4/7 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
12	4/8-4/14	Chapter 11 Drugs & Delinquency Chapter 12 Juvenile Justice Process <b>Assignment 8 due Saturday, 4/14 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>
13	4/15-4/21	Chapter 13 Police & the Juvenile Chapter 14 Juvenile Court

**Assignment 9 due Saturday, 4/21 by 8:00:00pm CST**

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| 14 | 4/22-4/28 | Chapter 15 Juvenile Corrections<br><b>Assignment 10 due Saturday, 4/28 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>   |
| 15 | 4/29-5/5  | Extra-Credit Assignment ( <b>Optional</b> )<br><b>Extra-Credit Assignment (Optional) due Saturday, 5/5 by 8:00:00pm CST</b><br>Prepare for Final Exam (Review audio-Lectures & PPT Slides)<br>Question & Answer at Virtual Office or by email |
| 16 | 5/6-5/9   | <b>Final Exam on 5/6-5/9 (Sunday-Wednesday), due Wednesday, 5/9 by 8:00:00pm CST</b>  |

**\* Schedule is subject to change as necessary. It is the responsibility of the students to remain informed of any changes.**